

Thirty Million Dollars Spent For Education In North Carolina

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN CAROLINA

Twenty-Five years ago North Carolina was spending on schools only one million dollars annually—today over thirty millions—state forges ahead along all educational lines—has old and also richest universities in United States

Any comment on the educational system of North Carolina suggests at once that the state possesses the oldest state university and the richest university in the country—the one, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the other, Duke university (formerly Trinity college) at Durham. But the most important thing with regard to education in the state began twenty-five years ago. Then Charles B. Aycock became governor of North Carolina. He had made his campaign on two issues: good roads and good schools. He had been elected, and had, unlike most politicians, proceeded to show that he was wholly in earnest about what he had said on the stump. Upon his inauguration he said in his inaugural address what might have been taken as idle rhetoric coming from another man.

"On a hundred platforms, to half the voters of the state," he said, "in the late campaign I pledged the state, its strength, its heart, its wealth, to universal education. I promised the poor, illiterate man, bound to a life of toil and struggle and poverty, that life should be brighter for his girl and boy than it had been for him and the partner of his sorrows and joys."

"I pledged the wealth of the state to the education of his children. Men of wealth, representatives of great corporations, applauded eagerly my declaration. For my part I declare to you that it shall be my constant aim and effort, during the four years that I shall endeavor to serve the people of this state, to redeem this most solemn of our pledges."

Spending Them and Now

At that time the state was spending a little more than \$1,000,000 annually on its schools. The value of all school property was only a little more than \$1,000,000. There were nearly 1,200 log cabins among the school houses of the state. The teachers received an average salary of \$23.46 a month. There were 400,000 children attending the public schools of that day. There were no more than thirty public high schools.

It is little wonder that Gov. Aycock's doctrine of universal education came as something of a novelty and that the men and women who went up and down the state preaching the cause of education had to wage an uphill fight.

Educational statistics of the present day show how far Gov. Aycock's cause has gone toward complete victory. The annual school expenditures of the state are in the neighborhood of \$30,000,000. Only fifty-three of the 1,200 log cabins are left. In 1889 30 percent of the population of the state was illiterate; by 1920 the percentage had been reduced to 13, and since then the figure has been brought even lower.

The 8,320 teachers of 1889 have increased to 21,000. The teachers of today receive an average monthly salary of \$99.93, nearly four times that of a quarter of a century ago. The total enrollment in the schools

The State University

This remarkable progress, which has placed the schools of North Carolina on a level with the best schools of the country, has been accomplished without sensational methods, and it is going on at an accelerated rate today. This in the opinion of North Carolinians, is the outstanding fact in the educational history of the state.

The University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, was chartered 137 years ago and received its first class 131 years ago. It had attained great prominence before the civil war, but up to that time had been an institution primarily for the well-to-do and leisured classes. It was the only southern institution of learning to hold commencement exercises the dark year of 1865, even though there was only one man to graduate in that year. But it could not survive the period of reconstruction and was forced to close its doors for five years.

When the university reopened in 1875 it was to enter upon a distinctly new period, in which it grew from a faculty of eight members and a student body of 69 to a faculty of 175 and student body of 2,500 and in which it ceased to become a university for the privileged few and became a university as much committed to universal education as were public schools of the state. The development of the university with

the cause first championed effectively by Gov. Aycock has won for it increasing public confidence and steadily mounting appropriations on the part of the legislature.

The Gift of James B. Duke

Duke university had its beginnings in 1838 with the establishment of Union Institute in Randolph county by the Methodists and Quakers, one of the rare occasions where different religious denominations have harmoniously combined in the name of education. In 1868 it became the Normal College, the first institution for the training of teachers in the south. In 1858 it became Trinity College and came under the direction of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. In 1892 Trinity College was removed from Randolph county to Durham, largely through the efforts of Washington Duke, who gave \$85,000 to make certain the removal of the college.

Taxes on real and personal property are collected by the counties. The state collects none. Of which \$6,000,000 was to be used for the material expansion of the university; the principal of the trust fund was then to be allowed to accumulate until it again amounted to \$10,000,000. Duke University was then to receive approximately a third of the interest of this trust fund.

Mr. Duke had previously shown his interest in Trinity College by presenting a new building for its library and \$10,000 for the purchase of books, by donating \$50,000 for the creation of a dormitory and by adding with his brother, Benjamin N. Duke \$80,000 to its permanent endowment in 1913. Between 1904 and 1913 he contributed \$50,000 to the current expenses of the college. In 1922 gave \$100,000 for the purpose, and in 1923 gave \$1,000,000 for the endowment fund.

In October 1925, he died, less than a year after he had executed his great trust fund, and by his will it was found that he had expressed his generosity to the university further by the outright bequest of \$10,000,000 and by the bequest to it of his residuary estate. These gifts have made it beyond question, the most richly endowed educational institution in the United States.

HIGH SPOTS OF DEVELOPMENT

North Carolina! What a tale of forward motion! Fifty years ago there wasn't a solvent bank in the state. Fifty years ago poverty stalked abroad.

Fifty years ago, next to New Mexico, North Carolina was pointed to as the most illiterate state in the Union.

Fifty years ago there wasn't a decent highway in the state.

Fifty years ago the state's feeble and afflicted suffered without the touch of a helping hand.

Fifty years ago the state's industries were represented by four cotton mills, a few small grist mills and lumbering operations on a small scale.

"Tar, pitch and turpentine" was all that the world had knowledge of in North Carolina.

But fifty years ago brave men began to erect on the ashes of Civil war conflagration the foundation of a new commonwealth.

What a change today!

No state in the Union has equalled the progress made along many essential lines.

Today North Carolina pays more tax to the federal government than the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida combined, and ranks seventh in the United States.

Today North Carolina ranks fifth as an agricultural state, first as a miscellaneous manufacturing state and second as a cotton producing state; first in the production of tobacco; first in the production of peanuts; second in the manufacturing of furniture, and second in the manufacture of cotton.

Instead of her four cotton mills, the state is the home of over four hundred representing half of the entire south's spindleage. The output of her industries annually totals in value \$750,000,000.

Streams that for centuries rolled to the sea untouched by the hand of capital, are today developing more horsepower than is developed in all the balance of the south combined.

One hundred and twenty million dollars are being expended on good roads within a five year period.

Millions upon millions have been spent to give the youth of the state the best of educational advantages, and from Hatteras to the Tennessee line, one finds the whole state, studded with magnificent brick schools, colleges and universities.

The rare beauty of Carolina beach and mountain scenes is bringing to North Carolina from all quarters of the continent armies of men and women each season to rest and play, and for the first time, North Carolina's surpassing resort advantages are being nationally recognized as superior.

OLDEST CHURCH IN TRYON IS AN EPISCOPAL ONE

During the beginning of its history in 1879, when the Rev. Milton resigned his parish in Spartanburg and moved to the little mountain hamlet, the Holy Cross Mission of the Episcopal church, is probably the oldest established church in Tryon, North Carolina.

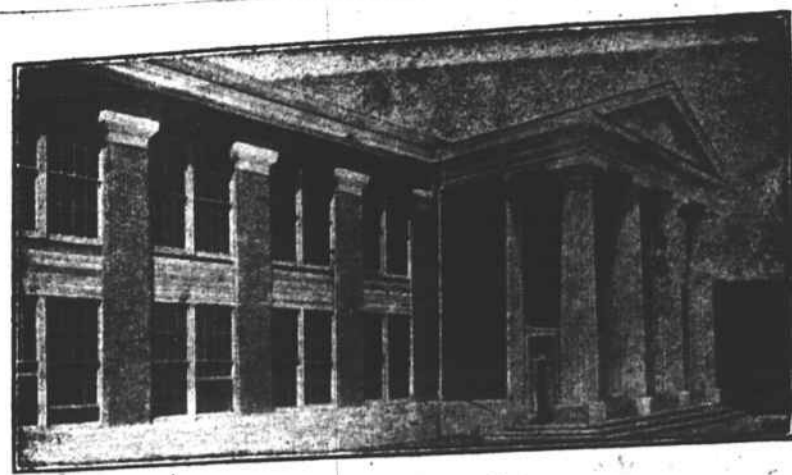
According to the records which have been preserved, the minister built a church soon after his arrival, doing much of the work with his own hands and the aid of the members of his congregation.

He served as rector of the institution for 12 years but moved from the state to Oregon in 1891. Three years later his work in Tryon was resumed by the Rev. Charles Ferris. In 1899 he became a regularly constituted parish with the Rev. Mr. Ferris as its first rector. Following 10 years of active service, the rector resigned in 1904 with the completion of the present church which was consecrated on December 15, 1904. He was elected rector emeritus and held this honored office at the time of his death.

During the interval between 1904 and 1922, when the present rector, the Rev. C. P. Burnett, of the Monrovia diocese, entered upon his duties in Tryon, three rectors served the parish. They were, the Rev. E. N. Joiner, 1905-10; the Rev. J. W. Areson, 1910-13; and the Rev. H. Broward Browne, 1913-22.

The parish now has a membership of 175 with an active and well organized Sunday school while, in addition, it maintains a mission Sunday school in a nearby mill village. During the summers its parish house not only provides an assembly hall for the Sunday school and other parish activities—a choir cloister, rector's study, kitchen, auditorium, boy scout room and virtual community chest—but serves the community as well. Here various social functions are held from time to time by the institution, the other churches of the city, the Parent-Teachers' association, the public schools, the Drama Fortnightly the Junior Choral society and other institutions of the city.

READ THE POLK COUNTY NEWS.



TRYON GRADED SCHOOL

COLUMBUS FEELS SPIRIT OF NEW DAY IN NORTH CAROLINA

The development of the southern slope of the Blue Ridge mountains into an all-year resort for tourists from all sections of the country is not only reaching an advanced stage at Tryon, but has extended as far north as Columbus, the county seat of Polk county.

The little town which has been asleep for many years is now awakening to the possibilities before it and has recently built good churches and schools and installed light water, cement sidewalks, all the modern conveniences of the larger towns.

Columbus has been the county seat for many years, having been selected because of its central location and accessibility from every point. It was named after Columbus Mills who donated most of the land for the original development of the town.

The little community is accessible from all points of the state by means of state highway No. 19 which connects it with Tryon and Lake Lanier.

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